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MILFOIL MANAGEMENT ON THE MINONG FLOWAGE

Hello everyone.

We, on the MFA board, want to update you on this ongoing issue that affects us all with regard to lake enjoyment, and property value.

THE PROBLEM:

Milfoil has worsened over the last couple of years. The map below, created by our contracted lake biologist, shows the areas most affected. It also overlays these areas from 2024 to 2025. This year it was 257 acres, an increase of nearly 100 acres since last year.

MFA 2025 Lake Bed Mapping

WHAT WE'VE DONE ABOUT IT TO DATE:

While eradication isn't a realistic goal, control is best done with a mix of modalities.

- 1. Boat inspections to prevent weed transfer from other boats. This is done during the highest traffic times during weekends at the DNR dock and the Totagatic Park.
- 2. Herbicide treatment to kill milfoil at the roots. Last done in isolated areas with mixed results in 2023.
- 3. Drawdown of the lake level to kill milfoil along shorelines. Last done, with mixed results in 2021/22 Winter.

ACTIONS WE'RE CONSIDERING SUBJECT TO WDNR GRANT APPROVAL:

We will not know the result of our application until first quarter 2026.

- 1. Herbicide treatments in specifically targeted areas.
- 2. Mechanical removal using harvesting machine, and to a lesser extent SCUBA divers, and hand removal by lake owners.
- 3. Winter Drawdown 2026/27 of 5 feet.

You can find a copy of our preliminary grant application to the WDNR below. We urge you to read the contents of the grant application for a more in-depth discussion of what the plan entails as well as the constraints placed upon the MFA for effective control.

MFA 2025 Main Grant Application

If you would like to help with the many tasks required in the management of the invasive weed, or if you have any constructive feedback for our volunteer board, please send us a note at minongflowage@gmail.com.

Thank you,

MFA Board
MFA Lake Management Committee